

REMARKS

By this Amendment the 34 pending claims are reduced to 14 claims, including one independent method claim, one independent apparatus claim, and one independent structure claim, and each of the remaining claims is focused on a specific well defined inventive aspect neither found nor suggested in any of the prior art.

Specifically, each of the claims, whether in method, apparatus or building structure form, is now limited to a housing having an inlet end and an outlet end; a plenum defined at the inlet end of the housing; a blower positioned at the outlet end of the housing having an inlet for receiving air flowing through the housing and an outlet for discharging air delivered to the blower inlet; a plurality of elongated tubular intake conduits having outlet ends connected to the plenum and inlet ends extending downwardly from the outlet ends and positioned, with the housing positioned in an upper region of the enclosed space, at spaced locations proximate the enclosure floor surface and distributed over the entire area of the floor surface whereby to effectively collect air from the entire enclosed space proximate the floor surface in response to operation of the blower and draw the collected air through the conduits and through the housing for delivery to the blower unit; and a source of radiant energy establishing a fungi killing zone to intercept collected air moving through the conduits and the housing from the floor surface to the blower unit.

This specific combination of elements, in the specific methodology and structural relationships recited, is clearly not found in the cited prior art nor can it be fairly replicated by any reasonable hypothetical combination of the prior art. Each element in the combination contributes importantly to the ability of the invention apparatus, functioning as a stand alone device, to maintain an enclosed environmentally uncontrolled space and a building structure free of fungi.


In particular, the recited feature of a plurality of elongated tubular intake conduits having outlet ends connected to the plenum of the housing and inlet ends extending downwardly from the outlet ends and positioned in spaced locations proximate the floor surface of the enclosed space and distributed over the entire area of the floor surface, contributes importantly to the ability of the invention apparatus and methodology to effectively collect air from the entire enclosed space for movement through the germicidal zone and discharge of the collected and germicidally treated air. And this specifically recited feature is clearly not shown by any of the cited prior art taken singly or in any reasonably hypothetical combination.

Since all of the elements in the recited combination have previously appeared in the claims and have previously been searched and considered in the context of a fungi cleansing apparatus and methodology, the amendments to the claims do not raise any new issues that would require further consideration and/or searching.

Entry of the Amendments and allowance of the application is accordingly respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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